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STATE FOR EUR/NCE EFICHTE AND EB/IPA JBOGER STATE PLEASE PASS USTR FOR JCHOE-GROVES AND WMOORE COMMERCE FOR 4232/ITA/MAC/MROGERS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ECON ETRD KIPR EINV PREL EZ

SUBJECT: SPECIAL 301 CZECH REPUBLIC 2007

REF: STATE 56305

- 11. (SBU) Political-Economic Counselor delivered reftel points on 2007 Special 301 Review to Ministry of Industry and Trade Multilateral Trade Director Ladislava Votavova on April 27 (delivery was made on April 27 since Voltavova and most Czech interlocutors will not be working on April 30, the day before a state holiday). Stressing the necessity for GOCR to show real progress in solving the border market problem, Pol-Econ Counselor explained that while the CR will not appear on a Special 301 Watch List during this cycle, it will be subject to an Out-of-Cycle Review (OCR) in six months. We explained that this OCR will examine the progress the GOCR is able to demonstrate with its IPR Action Plan. We also offered USG assistance in devising this plan, including a possible DVC.
- 12. (SBU) Votavova thanked us for the advance notice and for the overall USG decision (and assured us there would be no public discussion prior to the USTR announcement). She said she understood the OCR procedure, and added that the six month deadline would prove very helpful in getting other GOCR entities to engage seriously on the Action Plan. She promised that the Ministry would work closely with the USG going forward, and expressed hope that there may be some USG technical assistance as the GOCR developed and implemented the Plan.

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